

NOTE

The Correct Spelling for *Adelius* Haliday  
(Hymenoptera: Braconidae)

The generic name *Adelius* Haliday was published in 1833 (Entomol. Mag. 1: 259–276) but shortly afterwards was emended by its author (Haliday, A. H., 1834, Entomol. Mag. 2: 225–259) to *Acaelius*, with a third spelling, possibly a typesetter's error, producing *Acoelius*. The spellings *Acaelius* and *Acoelius* were most popular during the 19th century but the use of *Adelius* has dominated in the 20th century. However, since van Achterberg has recently (1976, Tijdschr. Entomol. 119: 33–78; 1984, Entomol. Tidskr. 105: 41–58) revived the name *Acaelius* without any explanation I think that a review of the facts is needed to establish uniform usage.

In April 1833 Haliday published the new genus *Adelius* (Entomol. Mag. 1, pt. III, p. 262). Part III is dated April, and the date is evidently accurate because Haliday wrote a letter, dated May 6th, commenting on remarks made by the editor in the April issue and this letter appears in the July issue, p. 424. Two more issues, dated July (pt. IV) and October (pt. V), completed volume I. At the end of the volume I is bound an unpaginated errata sheet carrying an emendation stating that "*Adelius*" should read "*Acaelius*." Perhaps it is not bound with all copies of the magazine, for I cannot find reference to it in the literature. The errata sheet also carries corrections to articles that appeared in part IV, proving that it must have been published later than part III. Part III of the volume (pages 217–320) carries not the slightest clue that the name *Adelius* was a lapsus, in fact the name is printed twice with identical spelling on page 262. Article 32 applies to the case, ruling that *Adelius* is the correct original spelling and must be retained. The emendation on the unnumbered errata sheet for volume I is clearly intentional but since it must have been published subsequent (by about 6 months) to the April issue of the magazine it is "an external source of information" and not part of the "original publication itself" (Art. 32 (b) & (c) Intl. Code Zool. Nomencl. 3rd Ed., 1985). Therefore *Acaelius* is an unjustified emendation (Art. 33 (a)) and is a junior objective synonym of *Adelius*.

In volume 2 (1834) of Entomological Magazine (p. 231) Haliday repeats the emendation *Acaelius* with the same results as before. The name *Acaelius* is repeated, in capital letters in the unpaginated list of new genera published at the end of volume 2. However, the name *Acoelius* appears in lower case in the index to volume 2 (p. 539). The diphthongs ae and oe were each set in print as a single character in the nineteenth century and the characters in lower case form were notoriously difficult for the typesetter to distinguish. In this case I believe *Acoelius* is really a printer's error but still according to the rules it is an "incorrect subsequent spelling" (Art. 33 (c) Intl. Code Zool. Nomencl. 3rd Ed., 1985) and thus has no status in nomenclature.

My conclusion is that the rules in this case lead unequivocally to the use of *Adelius* Haliday as the correct spelling.

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